Assembly Hearing Slip (Please print plainly)

Or. Subject BIII No. Date:

(Name)

(Street Address or Route Number)

(City & Zip Code)

Speaking in favor:

Speaking against:

Registering In favor:

Registering against:

Registering against:

Speaking for *information only;* Neither for nor against:

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State Capitol Room 411 West Assembly Sergeant at Arms

Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

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State Capitol Madison, WI 53702 Room 411 West Assembly Sergeant at Arms

Assembly Hearing Slip

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Speaking for *information only;* Neither for nor against:

Assembly Sergeant at Arms Room 210 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Hearing Slip

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Speaking for information only;
Neither for nor against:

Registering In favor:

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Assembly Sergeant at Arms Room 411 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Assembly Committee on Agriculture

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	Committee Member	Aye	No	Absent	Not Voting
1.	Ott, Alvin (Chair)	X			
2.	Ward, David (Vice-Chair)	X			
3.	Ainsworth, John	X			
4.	Zukowski, Robert	X			
5.	Otte, Clifford				and the second second
6.	Skindrud, Richard	X			
7.	Hahn, Eugene	X			
8.	Olsen, Luther	X			
9.	Gronemus, Barbara			September 1	
10.	Baldus, Al	X			
11.	Reynolds, Martin	X			
12.	Springer, Thomas	TX.			
13.	Wilder, Michael				
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MEMO TO: Committee on Agriculture

DATE: February 6, 1996

FROM: Representative Dave Hutchison

RE: AB 760 (Honeybee Regulation Bill)

Due to a previous commitment in the district I will not be able to testify at your committee's hearing on the bill. My office has contacted the DATCP and a representative should be at the hearing to answer your questions.

AB 760 was requested by DATCP in an effort to reduce unnecessary regulations and bring Wisconsin in step with other states. It should be noted that the bill maintains the safety of the honeybee stock in Wisconsin.

The bill also relieves beekeepers of the \$15 annual fee. Replacement of the import permit with a simpler requirement would not result in a significant revenue reduction.

Fiscal effect: \$350/year.

Lave Lection

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Alan T. Tracy, Secretary

2811 Agriculture Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53704-6777

> PO Box 8911 Madison, WI 53708-8911

Honeybee Disease and Pest Control Law Revisions Assembly Bill 760

February 8, 1996

Chairman Ott and Committee Members:

The Department is testifying in support of Assembly Bill 760 and the companion legislation, Senate Bill 466, which passed the Senate in late January. We also wish to thank Representative Hutchison and Chairman Ott for introducing this remedial but necessary change to the the current Honey Bee Disease and Pest Control Law.

Senate Bill 466 revises the Honeybee Disease and Pest Control Law under s. 94.76, Stats., to replace the current obsolete permit process for apiary supplies entering Wisconsin with a 12-month reporting and certification requirement, applicable to honeybees and apiary supplies.

Background

The Plant Industry Bureau in the Division of Agricultural Resource Management is responsible for administering and enforcing the current apiary inspection program under s. 94.76, Stats.

In order to help prevent the spread of honeybee diseases and pests, DATCP inspections of migratory beekeeping operations are performed upon request during autumn months to comply with apiary laws of the destination states. Inspections are paid for by the beekeepers.

Upon their return in the Spring, these apiary operations must also apply for an import permit to move their beehives, drawn comb and used equipment back to Wisconsin. This includes a \$15 fee for processing the permit, and requires an official inspection certificate from the state of origin to be performed within 30 days prior to shipment. This certificate states that bees and equipment have been inspected and are apparently free from diseases and pests.

Wisconsin law is currently at odds with apiary laws of other states. In 1991, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) adopted a Model Honey Bee Certification Plan to prevent the spread of Africanized honeybees from migratory beekeeping operations, and to promote regulatory uniformity among the states.

Consistent with the NASDA Model Honey Bee Certification Plan, DATCP proposes to 1) replace the current permit and fee requirement with a reporting requirement that includes certification from the state of origin; 2) include reporting of honeybee shipments into Wisconsin as well as beehives, drawn comb and used equipment); and 3) change the certification timeframe

for incoming shipments of bees and equipment from 30 days to 12 months. These provisions have been inserted in Department rules under Chapter ATCP 21, relating to plant pests and honeybees.

Analysis and Need for Assembly Bill 760

The Honeybee Disease and Pest Control Law requires that shipments of beehives, drawn comb and used beekeeping equipment be inspected and certified within 30 days of shipment. It also requires an import permit for those items. Current law does not address shipments of honeybee packages and queens. However, these shipments represent a major portion of honeybees moved into Wisconsin, and can serve as the source for injurious pests and diseases.

Experience has also shown that the current 30-day time limit for obtaining certificates is not realistic, especially in light of other states' adoption of the NASDA Model Honey Bee Certification Plan. Providing a 12-month certification for honeybees and supplies shipped to Wisconsin will reduce inspection costs for beekeepers and apiary services, and will conform to NASDA's Model Honey Bee Certification Plan.

Replacement of current permits with a reporting and certification requirement will provide the apiary program with equivalent regulatory oversight but reduced paperwork and mailing costs. The Department will retain authority to inspect all apiaries, and can inspect migratory beehives and apiary supplies upon arrival to Wisconsin if necessary.

Continued Department oversight of the honeybee pest and disease situation will also be assured through annual regulatory inspections and surveys. These surveys are conducted routinely during the Spring and autumn months with cooperation of the industry.

Assembly Bill 760 will provide much needed consistency between Wisconsin requirements and those of other states for migratory beekeeping operations, will provide for a more sensible and efficient cooperative inspection system, and will do so with a neglible fiscal impact to the Department. In fact, revenue from import permit fees under s. 94.76(4), Stats., totalled \$345 in 1994. Replacement of the import permit with a simpler reporting requirement would result in an insignificant revenue reduction.

The Department urges your support and favorable recommendation for Assembly Bill 760, and would suggest similar action on the identical companion proposal, Senate Bill 466.